



Mentorship

Week of Aug. 22, 2007 – Aug. 28, 2007

Mentoring prepares Airmen for increased responsibilities as they progress in their careers.

A mentor is defined as “a trusted counselor or guide,” according to the new Air Force Professional Development Guide.

All supervisors and commanders need to provide career guidance and counseling to their subordinates because the long-term health of the Air Force depends upon our experienced Airmen developing the next group of Airmen.

“Every Air Force leader has daily opportunities to develop and inspire other Airmen by living and exhibiting the traits of a constant professional,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley. “Leaders, whether in a supervisory role or through incidental contact, will positively affect other Airmen by displaying integrity, service before self and an excellence that motivates others to strive for the same attributes in their own career and family life.”

Mentoring provides a framework to bring about cultural change in the way we view the professional development of competent future leaders.

Model – must lead by example

Empathize – a measure of interpersonal involvement and caring

Nurture – caring attitude with an emphasis on development and understanding

Teach – step-by-step learning and correcting mistakes

Organize - sequential plan of lessons with a defined target of learning

Respond – developing a communicative process between the two

Inspire – motivating a person to be better than before

Network – introduce to others that can also provide support, info and resources

Goal-set – set realistic and attainable goals

It's important to know how to lead. Leading is a delicate art and the attributes needed to do so are difficult to learn. This is why mentoring is important and why it's the obligation and responsibility of those in senior leadership positions to make sure it happens.

Find Air Force Roll Call Online Here: <http://www.af.mil/library/viewpoints/>

Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.